

**Delaware State Arts Council Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2016
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Center for the Creative Arts
Hockessin, DE**

Attending: Council: Mack Wathen (Chair), Madeleine Bayard, Tina Betz, Donna Blakey, Robert Fitzgerald, Ralph Kuebler, Heather Morrissey, Cheryle Pringle, Michael Quattrociochi, Carol Rothschild, John Sarro, Catherine Walls

Staff: Paul Weagraff, Kristin Pleasanton, Sheila Ross, Katie West, Roxanne Stanulis, Dana Wise, Gwen Henderson

Public: Terry Foreman, Executive Director and Gabe Neeld, Program Director with CCArts

Absent: Lori Crawford, Mary Ann Miller, Jon Newsom, Leeann Wallett

The meeting was called to order at 10:16 a.m.

Motion and second to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2016 Council meeting – All in favor.

Chair's Report – Mack Wathen

In lieu of a chair's report, Mr. Wathen made a Power Point presentation on the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation (MAAF). MAAF develops partnerships and programs that reinforce artists' capacity to create and present work and advance access to and participation in the arts. MAAF primarily serves the states and territories of DE, DC, MD, NJ, NY, PA, VA, WV, and the US Virgin Islands. (See Appendix 1.)

Director's Report – Paul Weagraff

eGrants

As of December 1, 2016, FY2018 eGrant applications are now available online (artsdel.egrant.net) for:

- General Operating Support (Full application and Interim Report)
- Arts Access (for small organizations)
- Arts Stabilization
- Education Resource
- StartUp
- Project Support

Notice was sent by email to all email contacts of FY2016 and FY2017 applicants and Arts E-News. Information is posted on the Division website as well.

2016 Writers Retreat at Indian River Marina

Twenty-two writers from around the state attended the Division's 2016 Delaware Seashore Poets and Prose Writers Retreat. One attendee summarized the experience: "Amazing weekend of focusing on writing and interacting with other writers. Did wonders for my confidence in my writing skills."

Workshop leaders, H.G. Carrillo and Diana Goetsch, received excellent feedback from participants. One writer wrote: "The quality of both teachers was stellar to the point of moving, especially in terms of their encouragement and sage advice regarding how to proceed as a writer." Participants also valued the opportunity to network with other writers, "Opened my eyes to many writing groups and events in Delaware--very excited about that!"

National Arts Program® Exhibition

Sponsored by The National Arts Program® in support and cooperation with the State of Delaware and the Delaware Division of the Arts, the exhibit is judged by professional artists and visual art professionals in Amateur, Intermediate, Professional, and Youth classifications, and it is free to all. The Delaware State Employee Art Exhibition is designed to give artists at all skill levels a unique opportunity to exhibit their creative work and to compete for cash prizes.

- **Public Exhibition:** February 20 - March 13, 2017
On view in the Art Center/Gallery – Delaware State University
1200 N. DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901
Hours: Mon-Fri, 9:00a – 3:30p
- **Reception and Awards Ceremony:** March 4, 2017, 1:00 – 3:00p
(All dates are subject to change)

Poetry Out Loud – February 28, 2016, Smyrna Opera House

There are 26 schools registered to participate this year, involving an estimated 2,000 high school students. Sheila Dean Ross is once again coordinating the program, with assistance from Joann Balingit. 2017 marks the 12th anniversary of the program, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. The Division receives, as part of its federal grant, funds to implement this program at the state level.

New Initiatives (Kristin)

- Dover Air Force Base –
 - Leeann Wallett initiated the partnership with this community. We've become a part of a bigger initiative that the base is doing called 'First State Community Partnership Program' that has put us in contact with their various services. The Division is sharing resources and information such as our website, DelawareScene, Grant opportunities, etc. The Air Force Base's services include:
 - Youth Services
 - Family Services
 - Spouse's Club
 - Child Development Center
- Creative Aging Network
 - Partnered w/ Division of Aging & People with Disabilities (DSAAPD) and Modern Maturity Center
 - 73 attendees with a great mix of people
 - DDOA & DSAAPD will continue partnering together to do more work around creative aging
 - We documented the day with a videographer

Opportunity Grants

See attached report (Appendix 2) of Artist Opportunity, Arts Access, and Artist Residency grants awarded to date this year.

In addition, nearly 30 schools have requested funding to take students to arts programs at various venues throughout the state taking advantage of the TranspARTation grant.

Transition

Transition teams are working at both the state and local levels. It was announced yesterday that Secretary Bullock will be staying on as Secretary of State for the beginning of the Carney administration. The Office of Management and Budget is currently analyzing department budgets that were presented by the current cabinet secretaries. These will be finalized by the new General Assembly and new administration this spring. To date, our proposed budget represents level funding.

The Governor-Elect's four transition teams will be meeting on Saturday, December 17th. If you're interested in attending, the schedule is attached. There is also a form on the transition team website where you can provide comment in support of the arts.

Members of the Wilmington arts community proposed holding an inaugural event to honor Delaware's leaders through the arts. A committee consisting of members from the Delaware Arts Alliance, State Arts Council (Donna Blakey and Mack Wathen), and arts community is working on an event sometime in February that would recognize elected official at the federal, state, and local levels, with highlights of the arts throughout the state.

Advocacy

The Division will be sending a "welcome" letter to the General Assembly and newly elected officials at the state and federal level (re)introducing us and offering our assistance as they set out goals for the upcoming legislative session.

NASAA recommends all council members send a note/email of welcome, particularly to their own representatives. Once the Division has the new contact information, we will send you that list.

For your calendar (on the meeting agenda)

February 28, 2017; 7 to 9:30p	Poetry Out Loud – Smyrna Opera House
March 4, 2017; 1:00 to 3:00p	NAP (State Employee) Art Exhibit Reception
March 8, 2017; 10a to 12p	DSAC Meeting, Kent County, DESU Arts Center/Gallery
May 4, 2017	Delaware Arts Advocacy Day in Dover
May 8 – 11, 2017	Grant review panels – Dover Public Library
June 21, 2017, 10a to 2p	DSAC Meeting, New Castle County, Buena Vista

Update on Council Member Status

Carol Rothschild and Catherine Walls, whose memberships expired, were presented with certificates of appreciation for their time served on the State Arts Council. The Council still has an unfilled vacancy from Mr. Connelly's passing. Heather Morrissey, Bob Fitzgerald, and Tina Betz have agreed to stay on the council for another term, pending the Governor's reappointment. The Governor's office is currently looking over applications to fill the vacancies.

Roxanne Stanulis – 2017 Individual Artist Fellowship (IAF) Awards

There were 126 applications representing 17 artistic disciplines:

Applications by Category

- 65 – Emerging
- 51 – Established
- 10 – Masters

Applications by County

- 86 – New Castle
- 10 – Kent
- 30 – Sussex

Fellowship Candidates

- 8 – Emerging (\$3,000 award for artists who have not yet established reputations in their fields)
 - 4 – Literature
 - 1 – Music
 - 3 – Visual Arts
- 9 – Established (\$6,000 award for artists who have significant achievements in their fields)
 - 1 – Choreography
 - 3 – Literature
 - 5 – Visual Arts

Vote on Emerging and Established Fellowship Categories – Council members voted unanimously to approved the recommendations of the jurors/staff (see Appendix 3).

- 2 – Masters (\$10,000 award for artists who have made significant accomplishments in their fields and sustained history of artistic activity in Delaware)
 - 1 – Visual Arts Painting
 - 1 – Folk Art Oral Literature

Vote on IAF Master Fellowship Category – After reviewing the two artists statements and discussing their long-term contributions to Delaware, as presented in their narratives, Council members voted unanimously for Yolanda Chetwynd to receive the master fellowship award.

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Public Comment – Terry Foreman, Executive Director & Gabe Neeld, Program Director w/ CCArts

Ms. Foreman shared information and talked about the programs and activities at CCArts. They have a very wide range of programs from dancing to visual arts and everything in between. Some initiatives they're working on include a mural trail from Hockessin to Yorklyn, cross-promotion and collaboration with arts advocates and neighboring businesses, more opportunities for artists to sell their works, bringing more educational enrichment to schools, and to having a more prominent literary presence. CCArts is partnering with Auburn Heights and DNREC to produce the first ever Yorklyn Day in June 2017. CCArts holds two annual art exhibits and art show sales to support local artists.

Motion and second to adjourn meeting at 12:15pm - All in favor.

Lunch